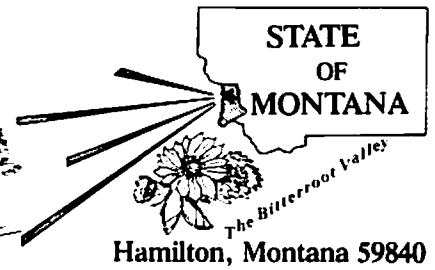
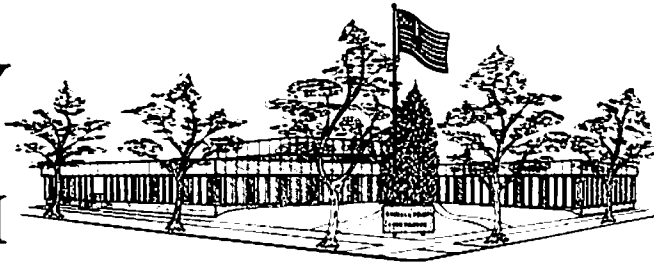


COUNTY OF RAVALLI



Ravalli County Commissioners
214 South 4th Street, Suite A
Hamilton, MT 59840

January 7, 2008

Richard Hawks
Chair, Department of Landscape Architecture
CESF/SUNY
Syracuse, NY 13210

Shelley S. Mastran
11454 Hollow Timber Court
Reston, VA 20194

Dear Professor Hawks and Ms. Mastran:

After careful consideration, we are pleased to write you in support of the Bitter Root Cultural Heritage Trust's (BRCHT) proposal for a Your Town workshop in Ravalli County.

Initially we were concerned that this citizen effort might distract the focus from our tight Phase I planning schedule. However, BRCHT explained the workshop can be scheduled in October just prior to when Phase II begins, thus avoiding any conflict. At this time the planning calendar will be moving in to Phase II when it is the right time to focus on issues such as design guidelines for Highway 93.

With the brief timeline for grant application coinciding with the holidays it has been difficult to determine the appropriate role for the County Planning staff and consultants in the workshop. We definitely support the effort and leadership BRCHT is demonstrating and if they are selected to host a workshop, we will seriously consider becoming joint sponsors of the workshop.

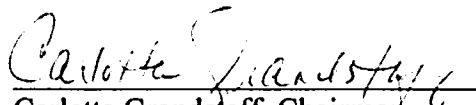
We commit to sending key planning staff to the workshop. Several of us plan to attend as well. In addition, we will assist with recruitment by listing the workshop on our planning

calendar and website and by encouraging our Community Planning Committees and other important committees at work on zoning and planning to send representatives.

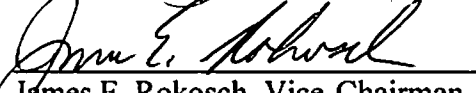
We appreciate that the NEA has created this opportunity for rural communities and do encourage you to assist Ravalli County. As we work to accomplish zoning and planning in our County, we realize and value the extra capacity provided through outside sources. We encourage you to award the Bitter Root Cultural Heritage Trust this workshop.

Thank you for this offering to express our support and commitment.

Very truly yours,
Ravalli County Board of Commissioners



Carlotta Grandsstaff, Chairman



James E. Rokosch, Vice-Chairman



Alan Thompson, Member



Greg Chilcott, Member



Kathleen Driscoll, Member